software, if executed by a system:

cooperates with said device manager to allow power management of a plurality of devices in the system which are configurable devices; and

manages a power level for each of the plurality of devices in the system and is capable of placing one or more of said plurality of devices in a reduced power consumption state.

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65. (Amended) The article of claim 64 wherein said power management software comprises a device driver that manages a power state for said plurality of devices.

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69. (Amended) The article of claim 68 wherein said power management software, if executed, instructs the configuration manager to notify it when there has been the configuration change and wherein said power management software responds to a notification of the configuration change by updating data in said data structure in the same manner as when examining the data structure at system boot-up time.

73. (Amended) An article comprising:

a computer readable medium storing a plurality of computer executable instructions including power management software and additional software to implement an operating system, the power management software, if executed by a computer system, operates in an operating system cooperative manner with said operating system at a kernel level

which is a highest privilege level of the operating system, and causes the computer system to perform:

providing support for device idle detection for an input/output device in said computer system to determine when said input/output device has been inactive for a first duration, the first duration being a user configurable duration that may be varied based on desired power savings using a graphical user interface;

placing said input/output device in a reduced power consumption state if said input/output device has been inactive for the first duration;

cooperating with a plug and play manager that, in cooperation with said power management software, allows power management of said input/output device even though said input/output device is a plug and play configurable device;

providing support for system level power management by monitoring global events;

placing said computer system into one of a plurality of system level power management states as a part of system level power management implemented by said power management software, one of said plurality of system level power management states being a sleep state into which the computer system is placed due to the system remaining idle.

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81. (Amended) The method of claim 80 wherein power management software for said

plurality of devices controls a power state for said plurality of devices and performs coordinating power management for said plurality of devices and registering with the configuration manager to be notified of configuration changes for any of said plurality of devices.

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85. (Amended) The method of claim 81 wherein said power management software operates at a kernel level of an operating system and wherein said power management software cooperates with operating system routines in performing power management.

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86. (Amended) A system comprising:

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a bus;

a plurality of devices coupled to said bus, the plurality of devices being configurable devices, the system being capable of reconfiguring said plurality of devices;

a memory containing a device manager and power management software which, if executed by the system, cooperates with said device manager to allow power management of said plurality of devices in the system and manages a power level of said plurality of devices.